Australian Bureau of Statistics

6524.0.55.002 - Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11

Quality Declaration

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Toorak tops Australia's high income list

Residents of Toorak in Melbourne recorded the highest average income of all regions in Australia in 2010-11, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Lisa Conolly, ABS Director of Rural and Regional Statistics, said the *Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas* publication uses data from the Australian Taxation Office to provide a regional breakdown of personal income received from wages and salaries, investments, own unincorporated businesses, superannuation, annuities and other sources of income.

"The top five earning regions in Australia were Toorak, with an average total income of $150,548; followed by the Greater Sydney regions of Mosman with $142,773; Double Bay-Bellevue Hill with $141,544; and Hunters Hill-Woolwich with $138,007 along with Cottesloe in western Perth on $125,441," Ms Conolly said.

"Outside of the capital city regions, the highest average total incomes were recorded in the Western Australian mining centres of Karratha with $86,828 and Port Hedland with $86,079. The coal mining centre of Moranbah in north east Queensland was also prominent with $83,257.

"The Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest average total income of all states and territories with $61,608, followed by Western Australia on $58,291. In contrast, the national average was lower at $52,240.

"Looking at average annual income growth rates from 2005-06 to 2010-11, several regions in and around the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia are emerging. For instance, Le Hunte-Elliston had the highest average annual growth rate in Australia at 30.9 per cent, partly the result of increases in the average income earned by residents with their own unincorporated businesses.

"High growth rates were also recorded in Kimba-Cleve-Franklin Harbour with 26 per cent and the West Coast with 14.1 per cent. The income growth in the Eyre Peninsula seems driven in part by aquaculture activity, notably farmed abalone and oysters, and the local processing of blue fin tuna.

"Overall, South Australia contributed seven of the top ten areas nationally, in average annual growth rate terms. The three non-South Australian regions were Condobolin (NSW) with a growth rate of 12.9 per cent; Morawa (WA) with 11.6 per cent; and Daly (NT) with 11.5 per cent," Ms Conolly said.

Further information can be found in *Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11* (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) available for free download from the ABS website (www.abs.gov.au).

Media note:
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